

Events:

Exhibition Reception

Sunday, February 21
3:00 - 5:00 pm

Meet the artists and celebrate *Residual Lives* along with concurrent exhibitions.

Urban Oasis Workshop

Saturday, March 19
11:00 - 2:00 pm

Youth from Sweet Water Foundation's Urban Oasis program lead a workshop on plug-n-play aquaponics systems. This event is open to adults and youth.

Film Screening

Wednesday, March 23
6:00 - 8:00 pm

Join us for a program of four video works made collaboratively by incarcerated juveniles and students from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. The works were produced during a SAIC semester long workshop run by Associate Professor, Tirtza Even during Fall 2015. The screening will be followed by a conversation with the workshop participants about their experience.

Hyde Park **ART**CENTER

5020 South Cornell Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60615 773.324.5520 www.hydeparkart.org

Hyde Park Art Center is a unique resource that advances contemporary visual art in Chicago by connecting artists and communities in unexpected ways. The Art Center is funded in part by the: Alphawood Foundation; Andy Warhol Foundation for Visual Arts; a City Arts III grant from the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events; Field Foundation of Illinois; Harpo Foundation; Harper Court Arts Council; Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; The Irving Harris Foundation; The Joyce Foundation; Leo S. Guthman Fund; Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince; Polk Bros. Foundation; Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust; and the generosity of people like you.

Residual Lives

Galley 5
January 21 - April 24, 2016



Tyanna Buie, *Repeat Offenders (#3)*, 2016
Hand-applied Ink, screen print, charcoal on paper, 74 x 38 inches

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Emmanuel Pratt and Sweet Water Foundation Team.
Detail: *There Grows the Neighborhood*, 2016, wood
furniture, plants, koi fish, photography

Residual Lives features new and recent work by a selection of US-based artists **Tyanna Buie**, **Tirtza Even**, **Carlos Javier Ortiz**, **Jenny Polak**, **Emmanuel Pratt**, and *The Portraits of Resolution Project* by **William Estrada**, **Erica Brooks**, and **Anthony Rea**. The thought-provoking and personal work by these contemporary artists highlight topics of violence, immigration, human rights, and community responsibility in relation to America's growing detention system.

The US has the highest incarceration rate in the world. Currently, more than 2.2 million people are imprisoned, with an additional 400,000 in immigration custody and 55,000 juveniles growing up in detention facilities. *Residual Lives* presents a selection of photography, installation, video, and works on paper by artists who

focus on the personal narratives developed and altered through the growing business of incarceration in America. What does detention look like from the outside – on neighborhood streets, in friends' homes, across a mother's face? By giving the topic a closer study through the works of these artists, we see the power of communities that struggle with, challenge, and provide a better alternative to the system.

Artists included in the exhibition have demonstrated a commitment in their practice to addressing the personal space of the free individual(s) located between incarceration and community. The work selected for this show present the various viewpoints, from mugshots of the artists' family members

in **Tyanna Buie's** large works on paper, to the artist-as-collaborator and documentarian of addressing the struggles of family members, neighbors, and victims in the black-and-white photography by **Carlos Javier Ortiz** and the video installation and archive by **Tirtza Even**.

Optimism for resolving the great incarceration epidemic in America exists in the exhibition too, through the artists making work to support and empower those individuals who change the system bit by bit every day. **Jenny Polak** celebrates the victories of the many citizens fighting against for-profit detention centers moving into their small Midwest towns. Her 3D printed souvenirs and ink paintings memorialize the protests and the public hearings vital to their process. *The Portraits of Resolution Project* by **William Estrada**, **Erica Brooks**, and **Anthony Rea** highlight portraiture's ability to be a tool for reclaiming self-representation and agency to voice frustration and determination to break the cycle. The garden/game oasis created by **Emmanuel Pratt** and the *Sweet Water Foundation Team* display the products of the community-based training Apprenticeship and Outreach Program (AOP) that provides youth in at-risk areas a trade, purpose, and a network of mentors (sometimes ex-cons) to ensure these young people do not enter the incarceration system to start.

The polemical space detention centers create in the community are explored through the variety of work presented in *Residual Lives*. The exhibition complements the prints and paintings by incarcerated artists on view in *The Weight of Rage*, a concurrent exhibition presented in the Kanter McCormick Gallery, adjacent from *Residual Lives*. By combining work by artists who focus on immigration, detention centers, juvenile detention centers, and correctional facilities, the exhibition invites us to consider our culture of confinement as a whole and our residual role in it.



Jenny Polak, *(n)IMBY*, 2012, Ink on paper 8 x 11 inches. Project commemorating the alliance of citizens and non-citizens who successfully fought to block the building of a new private detention center by Corrections Corporation of America in Crete IL.

Allison Peters Quinn
Curator of *Residual Lives*